

Victim/Witness Offices

*are located in each Prosecuting Attorney's Office.
Contact them for assistance with your case and
information about your rights.*

Adams County (509) 659-3219	Kitsap County (360) 337-7174	Snohomish County (425) 388-3370
Asotin County (509) 243-2061	Kittitas County (360) 962-7520	South Puget Sound Intertribal Planning Agency (360) 426-3990
Benton County (509) 735-3591	Klickitat County (509) 773-5838	Spokane County (509) 456-3646
Chelan County (509) 664-5206	Lewis County (360) 740-1240	Stevens County (509) 684-7500
Clallam County (360) 417-2368	Lincoln County (509) 725-4040	Thurston County (360) 754-2989
Clark County (360) 699-2008	Lummi Indian Victim Assistance (360) 384-2285	Upper Skagit Tribe Victim Assistance (360) 856-4200
Columbia County (509) 382-1197	Mason County (360) 384-2285	Wahkiakum County (360) 795-3652
Cowlitz County (360) 577-3080	Okanogan County (509) 422-7280	Walla Walla County (509) 527-3232
Douglas County (509) 884-9446	Pacific County (360) 875-9361	Whatcom County (360) 676-6784
Ferry County (509) 775-5206 ext 207	Pend Oreille County (509) 447-4414	Whitman County (509) 397-6250
Franklin County (509) 545-3543	Pierce County (253) 798-7400	Yakama Indian Victim Assistance (509) 865-5121
Garfield County (509) 843-3082	Port Gamble Sklallam Tribe (360) 297-2646	Yakima County (509) 574-1210
Grant County (509) 754-2011 ext 450	San Juan County (360) 378-4101	
Grays Harbor County (360) 249-3951	Seattle Police Department (206) 684-7777	
Island County (360) 679-7365	Skagit County (360) 336-9460	
Jefferson County (360) 385-9386	Skamania County (509) 427-4210	
King County (206) 296-9552		

Office of Crime Victims Advocacy

The Office of Crime Victims Advocacy (OCVA) serves as a voice within government for the needs of crime victims in Washington State. Established in 1990, OCVA serves the state on many levels by:

- Advocating on behalf of crime victims in obtaining needed services and resources;
- Administering grant funds for community programs working with crime victims;
- Assisting communities in planning and implementing services for crime victims; and
- Advising local and state government agencies of practices, policies, and priorities which impact crime victims.

"It is the mission of the Office of Crime Victims Advocacy to identify the opportunities and resources victims need in order to recover and to facilitate the availability of those resources and opportunities in communities statewide."



Department of Community, Trade and Economic Development
PO Box 48304
Olympia, WA 98504-8304
Phone: 1-800-822-1067
Fax: 360-586-7176
Email: ocva@cted.wa.gov

Clemency and Pardons Hearings

*Understanding your role
as a victim of crime in the
Clemency and Pardons process*



Office of Crime Victims Advocacy

1-800-822-1067

Frequently Asked Questions

What is a Pardon? A Pardon or clemency is an executive act of grace or mercy that relieves an individual from all or part of any punishment imposed by a judgment and sentence for a criminal conviction. Clemency or a pardon does not erase a conviction, rather it excuses all or part of the punishment imposed.

Who is the Clemency & Pardons Board? This Board is comprised of 5 members appointed by the Governor. They include attorneys, judges, law enforcement officials and members of the public.

What can the Governor do?

The Governor can grant the request or deny it. Civil rights may be restored and the pardon/clemency may have conditions placed on it (conditional) or none at all (unconditional).

What does the decision mean for the offender? It can mean that the offender remains in prison to serve out their sentence, or that the offender will be released from prison. It may mean that the offender has their civil rights restored to be able to vote, own a firearm, or have their conviction erased from the record.

The Process

To be considered for a pardon/clemency, the offender must submit a request (or petition) to the Clemency and Pardons Board. This Board reviews the request and decides whether the case fits the criteria needed to be considered. If so, the Board will then schedule the case for review.

A notice will be sent to the Prosecuting Attorney of the county where the offender was convicted requesting any information that they can provide concerning the case. The Prosecutor will submit copies of all police reports and court documents concerning the case as well as their statement arguing for or against the request. Also, the Prosecutor must attempt to inform the victim/survivors of the hearing and their right to make a statement if they so desire.

After receiving all the necessary documentation, the Board will meet in Olympia (they meet quarterly throughout the year) to conduct an open public hearing. At this hearing, anyone that wishes to make a statement to the Board regarding their recommendation may do so. The hearings are recorded and may be televised.

At the end of the hearing, the Board will vote and announce its recommendation. The recommendation will then be sent to the Governor. If the Governor makes a final decision to deny the petition, the offender's sentence will remain intact.

If the Governor's decision is to grant the request, the offender may receive:

- An unconditional pardon or clemency
- A conditional pardon or clemency
- Restoration of their civil rights

How Victims Can Be Involved

Victims/survivors have a statutory right to make a statement at any hearing where the offender's release is being considered. The police agency and/or Prosecuting Attorney's Office where the crime was committed will try to locate you if a hearing is scheduled. Sometimes this can be difficult if you have moved or changed your name.

To insure that you can be found in the future, we would strongly urge you to enroll in the Dept. of Corrections confidential Victim Services Program today. This program will contact you if your case comes up for consideration.

If you choose to participate by making a statement to the Clemency and Pardons Board, you can do this in any of several ways:

- A written statement
- An audio taped statement
- A videotaped statement
- An in person statement given to the Board at the hearing
- Have a Victim Advocate read your written statement to the Board at the hearing

For assistance in preparing your statement or for further information on this process, you may contact your local Prosecuting Attorney's Office-Victim Assistance Unit or the Office of Crime Victim's Advocacy.